

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION DAY 2024-10**

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-2024**

**Title of Resolution:** Charter Amendment – Term of Office – County Council

**Synopsis:** A Resolution amending Article 2, County Council, Section 206, Term of Office, of the Cecil County Charter to provide that the County Council shall be limited to serve no more than 3 consecutive 4 year terms. To require submission of this amendment to the legally qualified voters of Cecil County for their adoption or rejection, in accordance with Section 602 of the Charter of Cecil County.

**Introduced by:** Council President at the request of the County Council

**Introduced and ordered posted on:** June 4, 2024

**Public hearing scheduled on:** July 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**Scheduled for consideration on:** July 16, 2024

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Manager

Notice and title of Resolution having been posted on June 4, 2024 at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton and having been published according to the Charter on June X 2024 and June X, 2024, a public hearing was held on July 2, 2024, and concluded on July 2, 2024.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Manager

**Explanation:** CAPITAL LETTERS INDICATE LANGUAGE ADDED TO EXISTING DOCUMENT  
~~Strike through~~ indicates language deleted from existing document  
Underlining indicates language added to document by amendment.  
~~Double Strike through~~ indicates language stricken from document by amendment

1           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter, the Charter  
2 may be amended by the procedures provided in Article XI-A of the Maryland Constitution; and

3           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, amendments to  
4 any charter adopted by any County of this State under the provisions of this Article may be  
5 proposed by a resolution of the Council of the County, or by a petition signed by not less than  
6 20% of the registered voters of the City or County, provided, however, that in any case 10,000  
7 signatures shall be sufficient to complete a petition; and

8           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., §7-103(a)(iii) and §7-103(c)(3)(i) of the Election  
9 Law Article, the Attorney, designated to represent the county legislative body, shall prepare  
10 and certify, and submit to the State Board of Election, not later than August 1, 2024, the  
11 following information as required under §7-103(b) of the Election Law Article for each question  
12 to be voted on in the County: (1) a question number or letter as by the Election Board; (2) a  
13 brief designation of the type or source of the question; (3) a brief descriptive title in boldface  
14 type; (4) a condensed statement of the purpose of the question; and (5) the voting choices that  
15 the voter has; and

16           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and  
17 Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, the amendments shall be published by the  
18 President of the County Council once a week for five successive weeks prior to the election in at  
19 least one newspaper published in said County; and

20           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and  
21 Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, an amendment so proposed shall be submitted to  
22 the voters of the County at the next general or congressional election occurring after the  
23 passage of the resolution; and

24           **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and  
25 Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, if at the election the majority of the votes cast for  
26 the amendment shall be in favor thereof, the amendment shall be adopted and become a part  
27 of the charter of the County from and after the thirtieth day after said election; and

28           **WHEREAS**, Article 2, County Council, Section 206, Term of Office, of the Cecil  
29 County Charter currently provides that:

30 “A Council member shall hold office for a term beginning at 12:00 noon on the first  
31 Monday of December next following the election of the Council member and ending at  
32 12:00 noon on the first Monday of December in the fourth year thereafter, or until a  
33 successor is qualified” and;

34 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and  
35 Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, this Resolution proposes the following  
36 amendment to Article 2, County Council, Section 206, Term of Office, of the Cecil County  
37 Charter:

38 **(a)** A Council member shall hold office for a term beginning at 12:00 noon on the  
39 first Monday of December next following the election of the Council member and ending  
40 at 12:00 noon on the first Monday of December in the fourth year thereafter, or until a  
41 successor is qualified.

42 **(b) STARTING IN 2028, A COUNCIL MEMBER MAY SERVE NO MORE THAN 3 CONSECUTIVE**  
43 **FOUR-YEAR TERMS. A COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY MUST SERVE TWO OR**  
44 **MORE YEARS OF THAT TERM TO BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE SERVED ONE FULL TERM. AN**  
45 **APPOINTED COUNCIL MEMBER WHO SERVES LESS THAN TWO YEARS OF THE TERM SHALL BE**  
46 **CONSIDERED NOT TO HAVE SERVED ONE FULL TERM.**

47 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL**  
48 **COUNTY, MARYLAND**, that the following amendment to Article 2, County Council, Section 206,  
49 Term of Office, of the Cecil County Charter, shall be submitted to the voters of the County at  
50 the next general or congressional election in accordance with Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil  
51 County Charter and Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution:

52 **(a)** A Council member shall hold office for a term beginning at 12:00 noon on the  
53 first Monday of December next following the election of the Council member and ending  
54 at 12:00 noon on the first Monday of December in the fourth year thereafter, or until a  
55 successor is qualified.

56 **(b) STARTING IN 2028, A COUNCIL MEMBER MAY SERVE NO MORE THAN 3**  
57 **CONSECUTIVE FOUR-YEAR TERMS. A COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL A**  
58 **VACANCY MUST SERVE TWO OR MORE YEARS OF THAT TERM TO BE**  
59 **CONSIDERED TO HAVE SERVED ONE FULL TERM. AN APPOINTED COUNCIL**

60 **MEMBER WHO SERVES LESS THAN TWO YEARS OF THE TERM SHALL BE**  
61 **CONSIDERED NOT TO HAVE SERVED ONE FULL TERM.**

62 **AND BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL**  
63 **COUNTY, MARYLAND,** that, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., §7-103(a)(iii) and §7-103(c)(3)(i)  
64 of the Election Law Article, the Attorney, designated to represent the county legislative  
65 body, shall prepare, certify, and submit to the State Board of Election, not later than  
66 August 1, 2024, the following information as required under §7-103(b) of the Election Law  
67 Article: (1) a question number or letter as by the Election Board; (2) a brief designation of  
68 the type or source of the question; (3) a brief descriptive title in boldface type; (4) a  
69 condensed statement of the purpose of the question; and (5) the voting choices that the  
70 voter has.

71 **AND BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY,**  
72 **MARYLAND,** that pursuant to Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and Article XI-A,  
73 §5 of the Maryland Constitution, the amendments shall be published by the President of the  
74 County Council once a week for five successive weeks prior to the election in at least one  
75 newspaper published in said County.

76 **AND BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY,**  
77 **MARYLAND,** that pursuant to Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and Article XI-A,  
78 §5 of the Maryland Constitution, the aforementioned proposed amendment shall be submitted  
79 to the voters of the County at the next general or congressional election occurring after the  
80 passage of this Resolution.

81 **AND BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY,**  
82 **MARYLAND,** that in accordance with Article 6, Section 602 of the Cecil County Charter and  
83 Article XI-A, §5 of the Maryland Constitution, if at the election the majority of the votes cast for  
84 the aforementioned proposed amendment shall be in favor thereof, then the proposed  
85 amendment shall be adopted and become a part of the Charter of Cecil County from and after  
86 the thirtieth day after said election.

**INTRODUCED:** June 4, 2024

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Manager